

# STATUS OF SERRANA AND QUITA SUEÑO BANKS AND RONCADOR CAY

*Exchange of notes at Washington April 10, 1928*  
*Entered into force April 10, 1928*

Treaty Series 760½

*The Colombian Minister to the Secretary of State*

[TRANSLATION]

COLOMBIAN LEGATION

*Washington, D.C., April 10, 1928*

No. 352

The undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Colombia, duly authorized by his Government, proposes to His Excellency the Secretary of State of the United States the conclusion, by exchange of notes of the following agreement respecting the status of Serrana and Quita Sueño Banks and Roncador Cay, situated in the western part of the Caribbean Sea, that is to say, that whereas both Governments have claimed the right of sovereignty over these Islands; and whereas the interest of the United States lies primarily in the maintenance of aids to navigation; and whereas Colombia shares the desire that such aids shall be maintained without interruption and furthermore is especially interested that her nationals shall uninterruptedly possess the opportunity of fishing in the waters adjacent to those Islands, the status quo in respect to the matter shall be maintained and the Government of Colombia will refrain from objecting to the maintenance by the United States of the services which it has established or may establish for aids to navigation, and the Government of the United States will refrain from objecting to the utilization, by Colombian nationals, of the waters appurtenant to the Islands for the purpose of fishing.

ENRIQUE OLAYA

His Excellency  
FRANK B. KELLOGG  
*Secretary of State*  
*Washington*

*The Secretary of State to the Colombian Minister*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Washington, April 10, 1928

Sir:

The undersigned, the Secretary of State, has the honor to acknowledge and take cognizance of a note of this date from the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Colombia, stating that having been duly authorized to take such action on behalf of the Colombian Government, by His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Colombia, he proposes the conclusion by exchange of notes of the following agreement respecting the status of Serrana and Quita Sueño Banks and Roncador Cay, situated in the western part of the Caribbean Sea, that is to say, that whereas both Governments have claimed the right of sovereignty over these Islands; and whereas the interest of the United States lies primarily in the maintenance of aids to navigation; and whereas Colombia shares the desire that such aids shall be maintained without interruption and furthermore is especially interested that her nationals shall uninterruptedly possess the opportunity of fishing in the waters adjacent to those Islands, the *status quo* in respect to the matter shall be maintained and the Government of Colombia will refrain from objecting to the maintenance by the United States of the services which it has established or may establish for aids to navigation, and the Government of the United States will refrain from objecting to the utilization, by Colombian nationals, of the waters appurtenant to the Islands for the purpose of fishing.

The arrangement set forth in the Minister's note is satisfactory to the Secretary of State who understands such arrangement to be concluded by this exchange of notes.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

FRANK B. KELLOGG

Doctor ENRIQUE OLAYA  
*Minister of Colombia*